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#### CHEMISTRY AND CRITICISM.

The classification of human beings as bromides and sulphites, a product of the whimsical invention of Mr. Gelett Burgess, is explained in considerable detail in his suggestive little book, "Are You a Bromide?" For those not yet acquainted with this contribution to anthropology (or psychology), a few words of explana-tion may be offered. Bromides, who are the majority of mankind, "all think and talk alike," their "minds keep regular office hours," and they "may be depended upon to be trite, banal, and arbitrary." They are known by their use of such "bromidioms" as these: "I don't know much about Art, but I know what I like." "I want to see my own country before I go abroad." " It isn't so much the heat (or the cold) as the humidity in the air." Sulphites, on the other hand, "are agreed upon most of the basic facts of life, and this common understanding makes it possible for them to eliminate the obvious from their conversation." A sulphite is a person who does his own thinking; he is a person who has surprises up his sleeve. He is explosive. One can never foresee what he will do, except that it will be a direct and spontaneous manifestation of his own personality.' Hamlet, Becky Sharp, and Mr. G. Bernard Shaw are typical sulphites; examples of equally typical bromides may be found in Polonius, Amelia Sedley, and Miss Marie Corelli.

Since reading the author's instructive exposition of this new method of classification, our thought has been taking a chemical cast, and we have found a certain satisfaction in dwelling upon other symbolisms of the same general nature, having in view books rather than persons, -a distinction without much difference, however, since (to use a common bromidiom) a man's writing is sure to be the reflection of his personality. There is the old fancy of the four elements, for example, now superseded by the fourscore of which we have exact knowledge, with occasional additions to the list. Is not a parallel offered by the structural simplicity of the older literature as compared with the complexity of the modern product? May we not suggest that the old books — the primitive sagas and epics and myths - are compounded of four elements? It does not seem to be forcing the analogy overmuch to discover the element of earth in the hunger-motive, that of air in the love-motive, that of fire in the fighting-motive, and that of water in the nature-motive. These fundamental motives, as embodied in literature, have been richly illustrated in Mr. Charles Leonard Moore's recent contributions to our pages. On the other hand, modern books are inadequately described in such simple terms. They exhibit the fundamental elements, but also many others, and the variety of their compounds would be bewildering were we not supplied with a critical chemistry for their proper ordering. Take the element of love alone: it is a comparatively simple matter in Homer and the Niebelungenlied and the balladry of the middle ages, but in the modern novel its forms are innumerable. Here is the opportunity for our suggested chemical method of criticism, which triumphantly responds to the exigency. For in the new chemistry of the carbon-compounds we have an exact parallel to the new amorism of our ingenious modern novelists and poets.

Once started upon this flight of chemical analogy, fancy finds abundant material for exercise. Collaborative books, for example, usually illustrate the fundamental fact of chemical combination, the fact that the elements in such a union lose their distinctive properties, the product being like neither of its constituents. Again, many a writer exhibits the phenomenon of allotropism, having under different conditions modes of expression so diverse as hardly to suggest the same personality. Isomerism is frequently exemplified in literature. We may find two books compounded apparently of the same elements in the same proportions; yet one of them may be an inspired creation of genius, and the other but the dullest of fabrications. The old theory of phlogiston affords another parallel of highly suggestive character. According to that ingenious doctrine, combustion (which modern chemistry knows to be oxidation) meant the loss of phlogiston — an element having negative gravity - whereby the resultant substance was made heavier than the unconsumed original. How many a writer, by a similar loss, has grown ponderous and inert! Wordsworth was evidently dephlogisticated when he wrote the " Ecclesiastical Sonnets," and most sequels to works of genius show that the volatile element has escaped.

The synthesis of organic compounds, which so definitely separates the new chemistry from

the old, has its literary analogies. The work of literature, which was once supposed to be a work of creation, springing from the personality of its maker, now tends more and more to become the product formulated by rule and shaped from materials collected for the purpose. The old injunction of poet to poet, "Look in thy heart, and write," has given place to the modern counsel (not of perfection), "Look in thy scrap-book, and piece together." Thus are produced the countless imitations of old patterns that now clamor for our attention, imitations having a nicety of adjustment calculated to deceive all but the elect few. No "vital principle" is longer needed for the production of song or ballad; the literary laboratory has become independent of that old-fashioned agency, reproducing all the old typical forms in flask or alembic, and supplementing them with countless variations of its own devising.

Just as scientific chemistry has taken the place of romantic alchemy, so has the craftsman method of literary production taken the place of the old free play of creative imagination. And the cherished impossibilities which were the ideals of the alchemist — if we may be permitted a still greater confusion of metaphor than has hitherto been indulged in - are now realized in literature. Is not the modern magazine the exact analogue of that universal solvent which the alchemist sought in vain, and is not the modern novel the very type of his philosopher's stone that should transmute the baser forms of matter into gold? If his ideal of the elixir of life still eludes our modern poets, there are at least many of them who are fully convinced of having made that discovery also; and this cheerful delusion is a very fair substitute for the reality.

As a conclusion to this series of fanciful divagations, we wish to bring forward, by way of supplement to the Bourgeois philosophy of bromides and sulphites, a classification of our own. Ours is a classification of writings rather than of persons, - which does not, however, set it essentially apart from the other, for it is by expression that the bromide and the sulphite are respectively indicated. There is known to chemists a classification of substances into crystalloids and colloids, and the method of straining through a membrane whereby they may be distinguished and separated is called dialysis, which fact seems to justify us in claiming a certain proprietorship in the critical analogue of this physical process. Only the briefest of characterizations is here possible. Crystalloid writing has a distinctive form which it usually assumes if free to make the proper molecular adjustments, and which it always tends to assume. It has angles and facets, is subject to laws of internal strain, and offers marked resistance to external forces. Colloid writing, on the other hand, is essentially amorphous and gluey; its molecules seem to recognize no laws of symmetry, and are ready to shape themselves in accordance with whatever pressure, internal or external, may be exerted upon them. To name a few contrasted pairs of writers is the best way to illustrate our meaning. Tennyson and Browning, Tourguénieff and Tolstoy, Brunetière and Lemaître, Schopenhauer and Schelling, may be suggested as such pairs. Hundreds of others will occur to the reader upon a little reflection. Since the function of this journal, as we take it, is dialytical in the sense here indicated, we have allowed ourselves the above exposition ("Marry, how? Tropically") of an original principle of applied chemistry as related to literary criticism.

#### CASUAL COMMENT.

THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF LITERATURE is again forcibly treated by Mr. Henry Holt, the veteran publisher, whose paper in the current "Putnam's" is a sort of supplement to his earlier utterance on the subject which was published in the "Atlantic" of November, 1905, exciting much comment and discussion. His latest word is in the nature of a reiteration, with courteous replies to hostile critics. Many slurs upon publishers are rightly resented by him as a self-respecting member of the guild, while he also undertakes to plead the cause of self-respecting authors and to show that the literary agent is a personage that can commonly be dispensed with. The distinction between matter that can place itself and matter that needs placing goes to the bottom of the whole question: matter of the first kind needs no agent; that of the second no agent has any use for. But Mr. Helt admits that the agent can sometimes be of service in selling serial and dramatic rights, and the rights to publish in foreign countries or in the colonies. With these exceptions any business between author and publisher that the author prefers not to attend to in person can better be placed in an honest lawyer's hands than in a literary agent's. The "some of the time" that all the people can be fooled by the literary agent has passed, says Mr. Holt; and the "some of the people" that can be fooled all the time are too few to furnish the agent lucrative employment. Answering the objection that Mr. Holt's publisher is an ideal creation, non-existent in the flesh, he says: "I have suggested no ideal that

I have not known in actual practice, and although the publishing business in America is in a lower estate than it has been before since I knew it, I have had, and have, the privilege of knowing several men in it who live up to the best that I have claimed, and find their account in it despite the competition of methods that they scorn." If all publishers and all authors lived up to Mr. Holt's high ideals of commercial honor, what a happy life the literary life would be!

THE DECAY OF ACADEMIC COURAGE is the subject of some plain words by a college professor, in a recent number of the "Educational Review." The sting of the text lies not in the implication that the professor is losing his valor, but that the conditions of control in the higher education are so autocratic and intolerant that it requires an uncommon amount of courage to stand up and point out the dangers and injustice of the status quo. The editor of the "Review" rejects these conclusions, and declares that "It must be an unquestioned fact to any but the totally and wilfully blind that the academic career was never so dignified, so respected, so honored, so courageous, so independent, so free, as at the very moment of writing these words. Any statement to the contrary is absolutely unjustified, unwarranted by the facts, contrary to the facts." Notwithstanding the sweeping and vehement character of this rejoinder, we can hardly regard the discussion as thereby closed. There are various ways of conducting the complex affairs of state, and in any fair consideration of the dignity and comfort of the college professor's position this useful if modest functionary has a right to say how the thing looks to him. The enormous progress of our universities and colleges appeals to the popular admiration of success, and there is little danger of a lack of appreciation of the man with his hand on the throttle - the man who makes things go. But there are some burning questions (particularly as to the woeful poverty of teachers' and professors' incomes) that must soon occupy, in a very practical temper, a prominent place in the discussions of academic welfare.

An endowed journal of literary criticism has appeared, and in a quarter where we should perhaps least look for it—the Republic of Mexico. It is the Revista Critica, and makes the interesting announcement that the government of Vera Cruz has extended to it a generous financial support. It is thus probably the first periodical of its kind in our hemisphere to receive State aid. It is also the official organ of the Associacion Literaria Internacional Americano, a society which has for its purpose the fostering of literature in all the Spanish American countries. The headquarters of this Association are at Havana. In Havana, too, there is just launched a new magazine, "America," in whose pages the poets and romance writers of the league will try to gain a public. There seems to be a genuine awak-

ening of literary interest and literary talent in the great Southlands. There is a stirring of many wings and a chorus of voices. But indeed, to one who knows anything of these beautiful regions, who remembers their picturesque history, it is a matter of wonder that they have not sooner challenged and caught the world's attention by great works. These peoples inherit the Latin art instinct, and in the Spanish language have one of the most beautiful and harmonious instruments of expression mankind has yet invented. And their special qualities of bravery, courtesy, and hospitality, which rise to romantic heights, are a guarantee that there will be no failure of literary material or makers. It is time that our North American indifference to the intellectual life of our nearest neighbors should cease.

"Tis ignorance which makes a harren waste Of all beyond ourselves."

Perhaps the real Athens or Florence or Weimar of our Occidental world may some day find itself located on the borders of the Gulf of Mexico, in an island of the Carribean Sea, or under the shadow of the Andes.

A YEAR OF MAGAZINE POETRY is the subject of an interesting study contributed by Mr. William Stanley Braithwaite to the Boston "Transcript." Six leading American monthlies, the same half dozen that furnished material for a similar article last year, have again been overhauled, their poems counted and graded and classified, and some general deductions drawn. The writer declares that "students and lovers of poetry know conclusively there is written to-day infinitely better verse than nine-tenths of what gets printed in magazines. And they know that these pieces are being constantly rejected by editors." This exclusion of good poetry is supposed to be due to an editorial regard for what the public presumably demands, and also to space requirements in the make-up of a magazine page according to traditional rules. In matters of more detail, let us quote: "The space devoted to verse by these periodicals against that of prose in 1906 varies little from that of 1905. The average is about 9700 pages of prose to 220 of verse. The poems in the six magazines numbered 340, the total being apportioned as follows: Lippincott's 88 pieces, Harper's 78, Century 61, Scribner's 51, Atlantic Monthly 35, McClure's 27. Lippincott's, publishing the largest number, presented the lowest order of ability or merit; 8 out of the 88 come within the standard of acceptance by intrinsic merit, though only 3 possess any distinction to appeal impressively through some single quality. Harper's is second by numbers, printing 78, 11 attaining the merit class from which 4 elevate themselves through essentially poetic achievement. The Century stands third with 61, 10 of which above the merit average include 8 of decided poetic distinction. Scribner's follows in fourth place with 51, 7 of which are worthy of classification, with 4 distinctively excellent. The Atlantic Monthly contained 35, 9 having merit, of

which 5 possess distinction." These poems of "distinction" are then named, their authorship given, and the magazines in which they appeared designated. Of course the element of personal bias is not to be overlooked in all this; but Mr. Braithwaite has already done good work for the cause of poetry — witness his recent excellent compilation of "Elizabethan Verse" — and his authority as a critic is not contemptible.

THE SNEEZE IN LITERATURE, and more especially in folk-lore, might be made the subject of a curiously interesting and probably voluminous treatise. To begin with, the Arabs tell us that the univers; itself is the happy result of a sneeze by Allah, which at once delivers us from a tangle of philosophical and metaphysical argument and disputation. A Norwegian scholar has lately made some researches in the customs and superstitions that have to do with sneezing, and a few of his discoveries are worth noting. In China, where etiquette rules supreme, whenever the premonitions of a sneeze make themselves manifest all present fold their hands in prayer and bow to the earth until the explosion is over; then they all voice their pious hope that the bones of the sneezer's illustrious ancestors have not been disturbed by the earth-spirit. Contrariwise, the Japanese consider it not good form to take any notice of a sneeze unless its author chance to belong to the Fox Clan, in which case sacrifices are offered to the Fox God. This is not unlike our own polite practice of repressing or muffling the sneeze if possible, and of taking little notice of it if it escapes control. Some European nations, as the Germans, have a formula to avert the ill omen of a sneeze, or to make sure that it be of happy omen to the sneezer. "Prosit!" greets the ears of the astonished Anglo-Saxon upon his first sneeze in Teutonic territory. Some peoples use a phrase equivalent to "God help you!" or "God bless you!"—the latter form dating from Saint Gregory's time. It was while he was pope that an epidemic (probably the influenza, or, as we should say now, the grippe) broke out in Italy and set all the people to sneezing. This attack was called "the death-sneeze," and Pope Gregory issued an edict that all who survived this paroxysm of sneezing should exclaim, "God bless my soul!" All of this, and much else more marvellous, may be read in the book of the sneezer out of Norway.

FICTION-READING AS A "REST CURE" is not likely soon to go out of vogue. Indeed it may be said to have a great future before it. The hurried and worried, the nervous and distracted, the business and professional men who see much of the seamy side of life, all demand, and will continue to demand, in the leisure hour of dressing-gown and slippers, a bright and brisk and optimistic picture of things as they should be but are not, in the form of fiction. In addition to these classes of novel-

readers is the large number of ladies (and gentlemen too) of elegant leisure who make a serious business of novel-reading, visiting the circulating library perhaps every day but Sunday to exchange the nextto-the-last for the very latest new novel. A bright young lady, entering a London library and asking for the very latest new novel, was requested to be more specific, as eight new novels had come in that morning. "Oh," she replied, "then I 'll have the one that came in last." Ste. Beuve used to deplore the increasing vogue of the novel, as a form of literature destined to swallow up all other varieties; and already it has encroached on the domain of history, of sociology, of psychology, of religion, of finance (witness Mr. Lawson's forthcoming "Friday the Thirteenth"), and even of natural science. Those who watch the signs of the times in the literary world predict an increasing demand for books in the coming years; and of these books the greater number must, while human nature continues to be human nature, be books that amuse rather than instruct. The outlook for the novel is therefore a bright one. In the increasing complexity and intensity and strenuosity of modern life, the novel's chief mission may well prove to be that of a "rest cure" a name first applied to it by Mrs. Cecil Thurston.

Low-priced novels and the circulatine Library seem to represent conflicting interests in England. Word comes from London that one large publishing house is now issuing works of fiction at half-a-crown instead of six shillings—a reduction of over half its former price and the price still asked by other publishers. With this reduction, the standard of manufacture being kept up, it is evident that only large editions will pay; hence novels unlikely to command a good sale would be barred from publication. This low price could be afforded only if the novel-reading public should cease to depend so largely on the circulating library, and buy books direct. A general reduction of price among publishers of fiction would thus become a serious matter to the circulating libraries.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS is not the least interesting reading imaginable.

As was recently remarked of this library by a London literary journal, its size and importance do not

seem to be generally realized, at least outside the United States. According to Librarian Putnam's latest figures, the library now has 1,379,244 books, 89,869 maps and charts, 437,510 pieces of music, 214,276 prints, besides a large number of manuscripts that are not yet counted and catalogued. Among the many interesting additions of the year are Professor J. P. MacLean's collection of Shaker literature, believed to be the largest in existence; a mass of Van Buren papers, comprising about 1700 letters and political documents; and some five hundred letters and other documents dating from 1777 to 1810, from the papers of Senator James Brown of Louisiana.

The daily average attendance of readers was 2243.

THE INACCURACIES OF AN HISTORICAL NOVELIST namely, Mr. Winston Churchill - are resented by a newspaper of Mr. Churchill's adopted state. He is reported from Washington as sending back word to New Hampshire that he is still alive, and as telling the reporter in the same breath that "ever since New Hampshire has been a state it has been owned by the railroad." To this a Concord (N. H.) newspaper indignantly replies: "Mr. Churchill of late never loses his character as an historical novelist, and his interviews, like his novels, are curiously and unnecessarily inexact. New Hampshire has been a state since 1784. Its first railroad was chartered about 1840. Yet Mr. Churchill says the railroad has owned us 'ever since we have been a state." This is inexact enough, surely; but some allowance is doubtless to be made to a young man so recently defeated by the railroad in his heroic effort to purify the politics of his state and to get himself elected its chief magistrate.

#### COMMUNICATION.

#### THE LONDON TIMES AND THE PUBLISHERS.

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

Having followed the "Times Book War" with keen interest, I naturally read your recent article "O Tempora! O Mores!" with much appreciation. Two statements in it, however, do not accord with the facts so far

as I have been able to gather them.

(1) "The book publishers made the modest request that 'The Times' should not resort to under-cutting during a period of six months from the date of a book's first appearance. This was flatly refused. . . ." On this I have to remark, (a) that the request referred only to net books; (b) that it was not a modest request confined to undercutting the sale of new books, but an ultimatum that no net book, however damaged by wear or otherwise second-hand, should be retailed at one farthing less than its full price within six months of its publication; (c) that neither the modest request nor the dictatorial rule were flatly refused, for "The Times" claims that it has not sold and does not sell new net books on any other terms than those laid down by the publishers. In this matter I have every reason to believe that "The Times" is speaking the truth; and the Publishers' Association has failed to prove the contrary.

the contrary.

(2) "'The Times' retorted by declaring a boycott."

This is very nearly the opposite of the truth. So far from "The Times" boycotting the publishers, it has made every effort to obtain their books, and has purchased them at full retail prices rather than disappoint its subscribers. It has, indeed, appealed to its subscribers not to force it to purchase these books at such a loss; but I repeat, it has not boycotted the book publishers, either in trade, or in its reviews, or in its correspondence columns.

Forgive this intrusion by a stranger; but your sentiments are so admirable that I thought you might be glad to have your facts correct as well.

A SCIENTIFIC EDITOR.

Wimbledon, England, Feb. 2, 1907.

### The Rew Books.

#### PARSON AND KNIGHT.\*

A book published in 1861, called "The Alps," was ascribed on the title-page to "the Rev. Leslie Stephen." The volume on Hobbes, contributed to the "English Men of Letters" series in 1904, was declared to be the work of "Sir Leslie Stephen." Few of us recall the earlier designation, and the later one never became widely familiar, because it was the visible sign of an honor conferred near the close of the author's life. But the name "Leslie Stephen," unadorned by any mark of artificial distinction, has meant a great deal to readers of many kinds, from mountaineers to philosophers, for the past thirty or forty years; and when the famous Alpinist, literary critic, biographer, historian, and agnostic died, not quite three years ago, there must have been many thousands, in both England and America, who felt that his death was a serious loss to humanity. Even the most favorable conditions of native aptitude and cultural environment do not often produce so rare a combination of scholarly equipment, keenness of logical perception and philosophical analysis, grace of persuasive style, sincerity of purpose, and sanity of mind. His life was an example of so many of the virtues that it affords an unusually worthy object for our contemplation, and the biography now published should be the most welcome of books to all whose interests are engaged in the highest ideals of thought and conduct.

The task of portraying this rich and manysided life has fallen into the best of hands. The late Frederic William Maitland, who completed the work last October, and whose own death we have since been called upon to deplore, was one of Stephen's most intimate friends during the last quarter-century of his life. He was one of that goodly company of "Sunday tramps" who for fifteen years explored under Stephen's leadership the highways and byways of England; he became Stephen's kinsman by marriage; and he was designated in Stephen's dying message to his children as the one who should prepare whatever "short article" or "appreciation" or "notice" might be called for. Almost the last words pencilled by Stephen upon his death-bed were these: "Any sort of 'life' of me is impossible, if only for the want of materials. Nor should I like you to help anybody to say anything except Maitland. He might write a short article or so." That the "short article" has become a stout volume, telling in much detail the story of Stephen's life, and preserving a large amount of his revealing and altogether delightful correspondence, will hardly be held chargeable as a fault to the biographer, although in undertaking so large a task he exceeded Stephen's modest instructions. He says:

"I feel that in writing so much as I propose to write, I shall go beyond, though certainly I shall not transgress, the letter of his expressed wish; and it seems well for me to say why this is done. That 'short article or so' about somebody else he could have written to perfection; but I cannot write it even imperfectly. The powers, natural and acquired, which enabled him to sum up a long life in a few pages, to analyze a character in a few sentences, are not at my disposal, nor did I observe Stephen as some expert in psychology, or as some heaven-born novelist might have observed him.

. . I do not think that the public will be entitled to complain if it gets some first-hand evidence instead of my epitome of it, and if Stephen himself saw the 'short article or so' swelling to the size of a book, he would shake his head, it is true, but he would acquit me of anything worse than clumsiness and verbosity."

One of the most interesting chapters in this book is that which is devoted to Stephen's first visit to the United States. It was undertaken chiefly for the purpose of studying the Civil War at close range, and collecting controversial ammunition for use at home. Stephen had a deep-seated (and even hereditary) hatred of slavery and all its works, and he was one of the small group of Englishmen, the group which included Mill and Bright, who understood the American situation clearly, and who knew that, whatever questions of theoretical politics might be raised to obscure the issue by Southern sympathizers, the practical question at stake was that of the "peculiar institution." In the summer of 1863, having stoutly championed the Northern cause during the first two years of the conflict, Stephen started for America that he might make observations on the spot. He knew little of American public men and writers, and " had not any notion that he was going to make acquaintance with American men of letters, still less that some of them were to be his most intimate friends." If it were not for his later correspondence with the friends whom he made during this visit, the volume now under review would have a greatly diminished interest, and not for Americans alone. The score of letters addressed to Lowell, and the fourscore to Mr. Charles Eliot Norton, make up a highly important part of Mr. Maitland's work.

Stephen reached this country just after Lee's retreat from Pennsylvania and Grant's capture

<sup>\*</sup>THE LIPE AND LETTERS OF LESLIE STEPHEN. By Frederic William Maitland. Illustrated. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

of Vicksburg. He landed at Halifax, and at once proceeded to Boston. His first letter home speaks of meeting "Holmes, a rather well-known literary gent," and receiving cards from Field and Lowell. A week later he finds himself much at home with his new friends, and describes them as "really very pleasant, well educated men, like the best class of Cambridge men." Lowell "really is one of the pleasantest men I ever met." Holmes is "very kind and wonderfully talkative, but with a good deal of sense and really impressing me as an extremely clever man." The note struck by this repeated use of the word "really" is a sufficient index of that "condescension in foreigners" about which Lowell wrote with such lambent satire; and we make no doubt that it was many times unconsciously sounded by Stephen during these early New England days. It is amusing to come upon the ending to the letter from which we have just quoted.

"I know you will think I have spoken too favourably of my friends over here. I am, of course, in the best and most English part of the country. Perhaps I shall find things worse as I go on."

This apprehension became sadly justified when Chicago was reached a few weeks later. He says of the denizens of that frontier community that "their manners are those of bagmen and their customs are spitting." A few other fragments relating to this visit may be quoted. Newport was responsible for a splenetic outburst:

"It is hatefully flat and apparently devoid even of good bathing. However, I could not stay in it long, for I felt that disgust arising which always comes to me at Interlaken or any of those vile haunts of all that is most contemptible in humanity, called watering-places."

A few days in Washington brought him into contact with Seward and Lincoln. Of the latter we read:

"In appearance he is much better than I expected. He is more like a gentleman to look at than I should have given him credit for from his pictures. He has a particularly pleasant smile, a jolly laugh, and altogether looks like a benevolent and hearty old gentleman."

Seward did not make so good an impression.

"He is a little, rather insignificant-looking man, with a tendency to tell rather long-winded and rather point-less stories, and to make those would-be profoundly philosophical observations about the manifest destiny and characteristics of the American people, of which Americans have got a string ready for use on all occasions, and all of which I now know by heart. He . . . rather provoked me, as I was telling him something of the friends of the North in England and mentioning Mill, by calling him 'Monkton Mill'—a depth of deliberate ignorance to which I should have hoped no decent human being on the other side of the Atlantic would have descended."

Stephen found it hard work explaining to Americans the state of English "barbarian"

opinion upon the subject of the war.

"I really don't know how to translate into civil language what I have heard a thousand times over in England: that both sides are such a set of snobs and blackguards that we only wish they could both be licked, or that their armies are the scum of the earth and the war got up by contractors, or that the race is altogether degenerate and demoralized, and it is pleasant to see such a set of bullies have a fall. I really can't tell them all these little compliments, which I have heard in private conversation word for word, and which are a free translation of 'Times' and 'Saturday Review,' even if I introduce them with the apology (though it is a really genuine apology) that we know nothing at all about them."

Stephen made a trip to Philadelphia and was. oppressed by the hospitalities of his lawyer-host.

"Whenever we meet any one he knows in the streets, he clutches hold of him and introduces 'the Rev. Mr. Stephen, the nephew of the celebrated lawyer,' or 'the son of the celebrated historian,' according to the supposed proclivities of the victim, and begs him to take me to his extensive coalyard or to his lunatic asylum or his world-famous book-store, or his church, or in fact to anything that is his."

An invasion of Girard College was escaped by

pleading benefit of clergy.

"The founder, gaining my eternal gratitude thereby, but being, I fear, a shocking old scapegrace, declared in his will that no elergyman was ever to set foot in this building, and you have to give your honour that you are not in any sense a priest before entering it. I joyfully declined, and avoided presentation to the orphans." After making a brief visit to the seat of war in Virginia, Stephen returned to England, and poured hot shot into the "Times" by publishing a pamphlet on the American War.

The story of Stephen's separation from the church in which he had taken orders was related in the deeply interesting reminiscences which he wrote several years ago, and the present biography supplements in various ways the personal confession made upon that occasion. The process does not seem to have been a particularly distressing one. He sloughed off the theological integument of his early life as naturally as a crustacean casts off its outworn shell, and if there were any "growing pains" attendant upon the change, he kept them to himself. "In truth, I did not feel that the solid ground was giving way beneath my feet, but rather that I was being relieved of a cumbrous burden. I was not discovering that my creed was false, but that I had never really believed it." The separation did not take place with any startling dramatic accompaniment, but was a gradual process covering a period of several years. It was nearly completed at the time of the first visit to America. He wrote to his mother

that subscription to the Episcopal Church in America "must be pleasingly lax."

"A bishop asked a candidate for ordination the other day whether he believed the thirty-nine Articles. Candidate said he didn't. Bishop asked whether he agreed with the principal articles. Candidate replied that he would rather not commit himself. Candidate was passed, the bishop saying that he had no authority to inquire into anything but his willingness to use the Liturgy. I wish bishops had as much sense in England."

When Stephen ceased to be a parson and became a philosopher he had perhaps, all told, preached some twenty-five sermons. An amusing incident of the parliamentary campaign for the election of his friend Fawcett seems to show that while still a clergyman he was a human being. It was the day of the election.

"The language became loud; the 'chairman of the room,' one X, not a tall man, scattered his big D's about freely. Stephen entered, he had lost himself, and his language was such that it sobered X, who crept up to him, took his left arm in both hands, and said: 'Oh, Mr. Stephen, don't take on so; the General Election will come in a year, when we shall want a second candidate to run with Fawcett, and we have made up our minds that you are the man we should like.' Stephen tore his left arm so roughly away that he nearly threw X on the ground, while he shouted [something about X's soul, and then] 'Don't you know that I'm a parson?'"

It was in 1866 that Stephen became engaged to Miss Thackeray, and we may quote a few characteristic remarks from the letter in which he announces the event to Mr. (now Justice) Oliver Wendell Holmes.

"As for Miss Thackeray, I believe that it would be proper that I should give you some description of her, or, at least, quote poetry about her. I'll see you damned first.

"Do you know what it feels like to be engaged? The experience of three days or so of the state enables me to say that it is psychologically interesting: (1) Because it is incredibly pleasant—I did not think four days ago that I could contain so much happiness. (2) Because it makes an absolute breach of continuity in time. About December 3, in this year, the current of my life was parted by a chasm of inappreciable breadth. I should say at a guess that about ten years came in between two consecutive seconds, or rather, though we metaphysicians say that time should be represented by a line, this part of time seems to be fairly represented thus. [A diagram.] Intelligisne domine? (3) Ever since this dislocation, time has been going like a clock with the pendulum off, at the devil's own pace. How many weeks or months go to a day is beyond my arithmetic. I won't bother you with any more of my feelings, but I know that you are an admirer of H. Spencer, and might like a little psychological analysis."

In a later letter to Mr. Holmes, written just after marriage in the following summer, we find these philosophical reflections:

"To say the truth, I believe myself to have been very much in want of a wife, and to have been not a little spoiled by my donnish existence at Cambridge. It

always tends to shrivel up a cove's faculties to live as a bachelor in a bachelor society with very little external communication. One gets rusty and stupid and morose, and even a comparatively family and social existence in London had not undonned me. I was wanting much to take root, and am truly thankful I have done so to my heart's content. In short, I am very happy indeed, and don't mind saying so."

A visit to America in 1868 yields many notes upon places and personalities, among them this about a call from Mr. Emerson:

"He is considered to be a great prophet in Yankeeland, though I don't much worship him. However, he has the merit of being a singularly mild, simple kind of old fellow, who does not presume in the least upon the reverence of his worshippers. . . He was so kind and benevolent, and talked so much like a virtuous old saint, that we could not help liking him."

In connection with this note, we may quote what Stephen wrote a few years later about Carlyle. He was speaking of his brother, J. F. Stephen, and said:

"Oddly enough, he has been, in my opinion, a good deal corrupted by old Carlyle. I never before had so much respect for the extraordinary vigour of that person, till I saw how much influence he could exercise over a man who is little enough disposed to sit at anybody's feet. I see the prophet pretty often myself, and though I am not so independent a character as J. F. S., I am almost equally repelled and attracted by him. Personally, indeed, I am simply attracted, for he is a really noble old cove and by far the best specimen of the literary gent we can at present produce. He has grown milder too with age. But politically and philosophically he talks a good deal of arrant and rather pestilent nonsense — that is, of what I call nonsense. He is indeed a genuine poet and a great humorist, which makes even his nonsense attractive in its way; but nonsense it is and will remain, and, though it is as well to have a man of genius to give one the corrective of the ordinary twaddle, it is a pity that he is not comprehensive enough to see the other side as well."

Stephen's letters are so rich in so many kinds of intellectual and human interest (even more human than intellectual) that one is sure of "pickings" at whatever page the biography may chance to be opened. A few bits, taken at random, may give some further idea of its quality, and fill up our remaining space.

"As a matter of fact, Switzerland in the winter is just as accessible as England, and much pleasanter in some ways, owing to the comparative scarcity of Englishmen."

"I must now turn to certain wretched MSS. and put their authors out of misery. It is not right, I fear, to toss up, as it would save me a great deal of trouble, and come to much the same thing in the end."

"I like some particular boys; but the genus boy seems to me one of nature's mistakes. Girls improve as they grow up; but the boy generally deteriorates, and, in our infernal system, has to be sent away to school and made into more or less of a brute."

"I said nothing to you of politics; because, in truth, that department of the world seems to me to be given over for the present to the devil, iu whom I entertain a kind of provisional belief, so long as things go on in this perverse fashion."

"The female student is at present an innocent animal, who wants to improve her mind and takes ornamental lectures seriously, not understanding with her brother students that the object of study is to get a good place in an examination, and that lectures are a vanity and a distraction."

"Of other books, I have got on my table William James's new essays. They look bright, like all his writings He is the one really lively philosopher; but I am afraid that he is trying the old dodge of twisting 'faith' out of moonshine."

"You spoke of the 'X' critic who took Poe and Walt Whitman for the representatives of your literature. That seems to me—pardon the remark—that you have not kept yourself posted up in the youthful British critic. Some time ago he took up the pair in question because they were both rather naughty and eccentric, and it seemed original to put them above their betters. Poe was, I think, as Lowell said, '3 parts of him genius and 1 part sheer fudge' (perhaps '3' is too high a proportion)—at any rate, a man of genius, though he ruined it very soon. W. W. always seems to me Emerson diluted with Tupper—twaddle with gleams of something better. But I quite agree with you that the critic was silly, or rather a young gentleman misled by a temporary 'fad'—I have written so much criticism alas! that I have acquired a disgust for the whole body of it—including my own."

With these miscellaneous bits we send our readers to the storehouse from which they came — to the wonderfully discreet and sympathetic record of a lovable character and a noble life. "Many are alive and will say with me," remarks the biographer in closing, "that to have known Leslie Stephen is 'part of our life's unalterable good.'" And many others, now coming to know the man for the first time in the revelations of these pages, will give the sentiment a heartfelt echo.

WILLIAM MORTON PAYNE.

# THE DUAL STRUCTURE OF THE GERMAN EMPIRE.

While there is no lack of learned works on the constitutional law of the German Empire by German writers — such as the commentaries of Laband, Zorn, Meyer, and Schulze — we have hitherto had no systematic treatise published in the English language. Dr. Burt Estes Howard, an American scholar who, we are told, has been a close student of German history and politics for many years, has done much to supply this want in his excellent book on "The German Empire," which will probably rank among the standard briefer treatises of the Germans. It is based entirely on German sources,

mostly original, and affords abundant evidence of wide and painstaking research. The only criticism worth mentioning relates to the title of his book, which is misleading, since the work relates almost entirely to a single aspect of the German Empire, its constitution.

The German Empire is the only nation in the world to-day in which a federal system of government is combined with the monarchical principle. In this respect, and also in the constitutional inequality of the constituent members of which it is formed, it differs widely from the federal republics of the western hemisphere. But in other notable particulars it possesses striking similarities. The difficult problem of adjusting the relations between the central power and the individual units has there been solved in a manner very different from that of any other state having a dual system of government under a common sovereignty. Some of its contributions to the solution of the problems of this sort of government are wholly original, and, we believe, in thorough accord with sound principles of political science. The lessons which they teach therefore merit the careful study of citizens of the great federal republic of North America, who must needs find solutions for some of the unsettled problems of our dual political system.

The topics of Dr. Howard's treatise are principally these: The founding of the Empire; its relation to the states composing it; the Imperial Legislature (Bundesrath and Reichstag); the Emperor; the Chancellor; Citizenship in the Empire; the Judicial system; the government of the Reichsland (Alsace Lorraine); the Imperial Fiscal system; and the Army and Navy. The treatment of each of these subjects is lucid, accurate, and discriminating. It is especially in the exposition of legal and constitutional relations that Dr. Howard is at his best. He has a preëminently juristic bent of mind, as well as a faculty for clear and concise statement.

In the brief compass of this review, no attempt will be made to do more than state the position which the author takes on several important matters of German constitutional law. Concerning the legal structure of the Empire, he maintains that its constituent elements are not citizens or subjects, but states; and that sovereignty resides not in the Emperor, nor in the people, but in the totality of the states, i. e., in the Bundesrath. This is the view also of the abler German commentators. The Kaiser is not monarch of the Empire, but monarch in

<sup>\*</sup> THE GERMAN EMPIRE. By Burt Estes Howard. New York: The Macmillan Co.

the Empire; not Kaiser von Deutschland, but Deutscher Kaiser. He is not an authority of residuary powers with the customary monarchical prerogatives, but as Kaiser he possesses only derivative powers. He has some of the elements of both a monarch and a President; yet he is neither of these. His position is unique, and it is impossible to classify him with other rulers. But, owing to the importance of the military power in Germany, his position as Kaiser, independently of his royal office, is one of enormous power. The office of Imperial Chancellor, created by Bismarck for himself, is equally unique, and something of a puzzle to political students. Dr. Howard insists that the only way to avoid misapprehension as to the real nature of the office is to distinguish between its dual nature - i. e., between the Chancellor's position as a Prussian member of the Bundesrath on the one hand, and his position as the Emperor's only responsible minister and the highest imperial official on the other. Whether his responsibility is legal or political, as Dr. Howard points out, is purely an academic question, since there is no means of enforcing it. The Socialists are demanding that he should be made responsible to the Imperial Parliament; but as yet he acknowledges responsibility to no one except the Emperor.

The discussion of German citizenship is full and illuminating. Like all states having the federal system of government, Germany has had to deal with the difficult problem of a dual citizenship - one local, the other national. Most commentators recognize the existence of a citizenship of the Empire, and also a state eitizenship. Dr. Howard is among the number, although he maintains that the two forms of citizenship are not coördinate and independent, occupying distinct spheres, but that the relation is one of subordination and dependence. Contrary to the American rule, state citizenship in Germany is primary and imperial citizenship secondary; that is, the latter is derived from the former, and is lost when that is lost. Nevertheless, it is characteristic of the German conception of the importance of uniformity among the states, that the conditions governing the acquisition of state citizenship (and, in consequence, of imperial citizenship) should be regulated by Imperial law. This insures a common citizenship for all the states of the Empire, and does away with local diversities and inequalities.

The German theory of centralization in legislation is also well shown in the organization of

the judicial and legal system, which constitutes the subject of an important chapter in Mr. Howard's book. By successive statutes enacted since the founding of the Empire, a common judicial system for all the states has been provided (except for non-contentious jurisdiction); and so have codes of law and procedure. Thus there is uniformity of law, of judicial organization, and judicial procedure, throughout the Empire; although, with the exception of the Imperial Court at Leipsic, all courts are regarded as state courts, the judges being appointed and paid by the local governments. But here again the states are under certain restrictions, for they are required to provide the judges with adequate salaries, and the minimum qualifications for eligibility to judicial stations are prescribed by imperial law. Dr. Howard does not discuss the various special courts (besondere gerichte) which are not regulated by Imperial law, nor the administrative courts, nor the bar, nor the state-attorneyship. A real defect in his discussion of the judicial system is the omision of all reference to the question of the power of the courts to declare statutes unconstitutional. The question is not entirely academic, particularly when there is a case of conflict between the state law and the imperial constitution or an imperial statute.

In his discussion of the military side of the Empire, the author points out the interesting fact that there is no imperial army, but only a collective unity made up of contingents of the several states. This would be considered a fatal weakness in the military organization of the Empire, were it not for the fact that the contingent of each state is recruited, organized, equipped, and drilled, in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Empire. Likewise, the liability to military service, as well as the whole matter of discipline, rests upon Imperial law, and the supreme command of all contingents is vested in the Emperor. Another weak spot in the military organization of the Empire is the special privileges enjoyed by a number of the states. The smaller of these have ceded their special privileges to Prussia, so that really there are but four contingents namely, those of Prussia, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, and Saxony. The navy, unlike the army, is in the strictest sense an Imperial affair. When the Empire was formed, Prussia alone had a navy; she brought it with her into the union; and it has remained under the control of the King of Prussia, who is at the same time the J. W. GARNER. German Emperor.

#### THOREAU IN HIS JOURNALS.\*

Seldom does it happen that the journals of a private citizen, a quiet man of letters, are published in a dozen volumes, especially in the United States. The Adams family, with their turn for both politics and literature, and their unwearied industry with the pen, have given us volume after volume of the diaries of the two Presidents of that family; and doubtless much is coming of the same sort from the copious papers of Charles Francis Adams, first of that name. But among literary Americans diary publication has been comparatively small. A century after his death, the so-called "Literary Diary" of President Stiles of Yale has been edited at New Haven, and quite recently has appeared the first (perhaps the only) volume of Dr. S. G. Howe, covering his active youthful years in the Greek Revolution. But Emerson's journals have as yet come forth only in fragments, though they are extensive; and the fifty or sixty volumes of Alcott's Diaries remain on the shelves at Concord, undisturbed. Theodore Parker's copious Journals of a quarter-century have been much drawn upon by his biographers, and are to go finally to the Boston Public Library, after which publication in full may follow, - but not, probably, until half a century after Parker's death at Florence, in May, 1860.

Most of the diaries just mentioned are records of foreign travel, at least in part. John Quincy Adams had ranged over Europe from the Orient to Moscow; Emerson twice or thrice visited Europe, and even (in 1872) went as far eastward as to the Sphinx of Egypt, though he made few notes of that final journey, taken as he was approaching the age of seventy, and disinclined to write even a journal. Parker had noted, in his Journal of 1843-44, his interviews with famous scholars, and the lectures he heard in Paris and in Germany; in Florence, where he is buried, he met the Brownings, and in Switzerland and Italy and the West Indies, in 1859-60, he had foreign incidents and manners to relate. Even Alcott had one brief visit to England to record, as well as those many volumes which he filled with what his satirical neighbor, Ellery Channing, called his "Encyclopédie de Moi-meme, Cinquante Volumes." But Thoreau's only foreign travel was for ten days, from Concord to Canada, and its incidents were left out of his Journal of 1850, to appear in a work by itself, "A Yankee in Canada," of which a quarter part was left unprinted. His longest journey, that from Concord to Redwood on the Minnesota river, only found record in notes that never got written into his Journal of 1861, and in a few letters.

What, then, is the great interest of Thoreau's Journals, to warrant their publication in fourteen well printed, illustrated, and indexed volumes, containing in the aggregate 6700 pages, exclusive of 70 pages of Mr. Gleason's admirable photogravures, six pages of his map and key, and 110 double-columned pages of index. In all, the volumes fall little short of 7000 pages, or eight times as much as White's "Selborne" and Izaak Walton's "Compleat Angler," the two authors with whom Thoreau is perhaps most often compared. What is it that warrants so full a publication of writings which in the author's own time were so generally overlooked or contemned? Two qualities especially, - their wonderful variety of topic and treatment, and the charm of their style when at its best. Back of both lies Thoreau's chief quality - his power of exact and minute observation; and still further back and deeply original with him, the power of profound thought and comprehensive imagination applied to the most commonplace objects and events. Hardly any writer can be named, ancient or modern, who devoted such high powers so studiously to such a cyclopædia of themes. Seneca, Pliny, and Aristotle, among the ancients, Montaigne and Goethe of the moderns, come readily to mind, and each has some gifts and accomplishments that Thoreau had not. But, on the other hand, so had he gifts and industries which they had not. Perhaps he comes nearest to Montaigne, for, like that learned and irregular Gascon, he made the world of fact and deed revolve about himself, instead of sharing its revolutions and following its fashions, like the most of us. Of course there are marked divergences one from the other. Where Montaigne is nonchalant and obscene, Thoreau is fastidious and full of exalted sentiment. Though their loyalty in friendship is much the same, Thoreau has a loftier and more unpractical ideal of his friend; while in secular matters he was far more widely practical than the landlord and magistrate in his chateau or his province. Emerson once, in Cincinnati, advised a young friend to "know Mr. C.,—there is nothing he may not say." Of Thoreau it may be declared there was nothing he might not do, with his hands or with his head. He was a good boatman and boat-builder; a mechanic and phi-

<sup>\*</sup>THE WEITINGS OF HENRY DAVID THORRAY. Walden Edition. Edited by Bradford Torrey. In twenty volumes. Illustrated. Volumes VIII.-XX., The Journals. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

losopher; a stoic, a cynic, a pencil-maker, and a poet; good at mathematics, at merchandizing, at abstractions, paradoxes, and land-surveying. To none of his many avocations did he surrender himself, but stood back of and above them all in a proud leisure derived from the simplicity of his tastes and the singularity of his ambitions. Those foolish critics who call him indolent never knew him, nor any of his kind among men. His activity, whether physical or intellectual, was unceasing. Emerson, his neighbor and friend, had intervals of mental inefficiency, when the pen refused its task, and even his startling faculty of perception seemed to slumber or be far away. But Thoreau was always, as the Yankee phrase is, "up and coming." His most intimate friend and best biographer, Ellery Channing, describing his personal traits, says: "His clenched hand betokened purpose. In walking he made a short cut if he could, and when sitting in the shade or by the wall-side he seemed merely the clearer to look forward into the next piece of activity. Even in the boat he had a wary, transitory air, his eyes on the outlook,perhaps there might be ducks or the Blanding turtle, or an otter or sparrow."

Thoreau's Journals intimate this tireless activity and vigilance; and yet how many things and events, that he might have been expected to mention, are passed by in silence! Thus, in the autumn of 1854, when he was making the acquaintance of his English admirer, Thomas Cholmondeley, who lived with him in the same house for weeks, and in December went back to Shropshire to enlist volunteers for the Crimean war, the Journal contains no allusion to his new friend; and when he came over again in 1859, and went with Thoreau to New Bedford to call on his friend Ricketson, there is a very slight allusion to Cholmondeley in the Journal. In the same way, when John Brown of Kansas was introduced to Thoreau in 1857, dined with him, and made a vivid impression, so that his conversation was recalled in the Journal two and a half years afterward, there is no mention of Brown in the entries of 1857. Nor is Whitman much mentioned in the Journal of 1856, when Thoreau first met him and described him in a letter to Blake. His letters are often substitutes for the Journal entries, and sometimes are copied from the Journal, as was Emerson's habit occasionally.

Thoreau's use of his Journals, which he began to keep regularly about 1838, was original, like everything about him. He used them to make magazine articles and books from; and

then he destroyed them, reserving such pages or fragments as he had not used, and preserving these scraps all his life, often using them years afterward in essays. In the latter case he did not destroy them, so that those who have bought his MSS. of late years may often find the scraps and pages among them which long since came out in some of his posthumous books. In the same way it has happened that the publishers of these fourteen volumes lack original pages of the Journal, enough perhaps to make a small volume; they have been sold, and most of them are in the possession of Mr. W. K. Bixby of St. Louis, who has allowed the Bibliophile Society of Boston to print them in their two volumes called "The First and Last Journeys of Thoreau." Other Journal pages remain unprinted, but may come out hereafter in connection with reprints of "Walden" or "A Yankee in Canada." There are also many verses that have not been brought into any collection, some of them in the Journals, and others in loose leaves, or written on the back of lecture sheets or pages from some destroyed journal.

But it is time to quote from these rich and unusual transcripts of the meditations and observations of a man of genius. September 19, 1854, he writes:

"Thinking this afternoon of the prospect of my writing lectures and going abroad to read them the next winter, I realized how incomparably great the advantages of obscurity and poverty which I have enjoyed so long (and may perhaps still enjoy). I thought with what more than princely, with what poetic leisure I had spent my years hitherto, without care or engagement, fancy-free. I have given myself up to Nature: I have lived so many springs and summers, autumns and winters as if I had nothing to do but live them, and imbibe whatever nutriment they had for me. I have spent a couple of years, for instance, with the flowers chiefly, having none other so binding engagement as to observe when they opened; I could afford to spend the whole Fall observing the changing tints of the foliage. Ah! how I have thriven on solitude and poverty! I cannot overstate this advantage. I do not see how I could have enjoyed it, if the public had been expecting as much of me as there is danger now that they will. If I go abroad lecturing, how shall I ever recover the lost winter? It has been my vacation, my season of growth and expansion,—a prolonged youth."

This was said in consequence of the good reception given to "Walden," then just published, and bringing him invitations to lecture here and there, even as far away as Nantucket and Philadelphia. But he was not a "taking" speaker; his lectures were best heard by a small company in a parlor; the miscellaneous audience of a public hall went away unimpressed. He was presently left as uninvited as before,

except in Concord, Worcester, and Plymouth, where he had admiring friends.

In contrast with the above passage, take this concerning one of his rather disreputable friends, G. M., who had skill in boating, fishing, and hunting, but neglected the domestic duties. There were several such in his list of acquaintance:

"He follows hunting, praise be to him! as regularly in our tame fields as the farmers follow farming. Persistent Genius! how I respect it and thank him for it! I trust the Lord will provide us with another G. M. when he is gone. How good in him to follow his own bent, and not continue at the Sabbath-school all his days! What a wealth he thus becomes in the neighborhood! Few know how to take the census. I thank my stars for M. I think of him with gratitude when I am going to sleep, grateful that he exists, —that M. who is such a trial to his mother. Yet he is agreeable to me as a tinge of russet on the hillside. I would fain give thanks morning and evening for my blessings. Awkward, gawky, loose-hung, dragging his legs after him, —he is my contemporary and neighbor. He is one tribe, I am another, and we are not at war."

Thoreau had, however, more intimate friends than these, whose class Channing hit off in his "Near Home" — grateful he says,—

"The while our fisher dreams, or greasy gunner Lank, with ebon locks, shies o'er the fences, And cracks down the birds,—game-law forgot; And still, upon the outskirts of the town, A tawny tribe denudes the cranberry-bed."

Thoreau's best and longest friends were Channing and Emerson,—the latter the earlier, but not finally the more intimate, and at one time (in 1857) regarded with pathetic aversion, as having broken the abiding tie of friendship by his lofty manners. The passage referring to this was surprising when Mr. Blake printed it, some ten years ago; and here it is again in parts, alluding unmistakably to Emerson. The date is February, 1857.

"And now another friendship is ended. I do not know what has made my friend doubt me, —but I know that in love there is no mistake, and that every estrangement is well founded. What a grand significance the word 'never' acquires! I am perfectly sad at parting from you. I could better have the earth taken away from under my feet than the thought of you from my mind. . . . A man cannot be said to succeed in this life who does not satisfy one friend. . . . I say in my thought to my neighbor who was once my friend, 'It is of no use to speak the truth to you; you will not hear it. What, then, shall I say to you?' . . . You cheat me, you keep me at a distance with your manners. I know of no other dishonesty, no other devil. Why this doubleness, these compliments? They are the worst of lies. A lie is not worse between traders than a compliment between friends. Lying, on lower levels, is but a trivial offense compared with civility and compli-ments on the level of Friendship. . . Friends! they are united for good and for evil. They can delight each other as none other can. They can distress each other as none other can.... I have not yet known a friendship to cease, I think. I fear I have experienced its decaying. Morning, noon, and night, I suffer a physical pain, an aching of the breast, which unfits me for my tasks. It is perhaps most intense at evening. That aching of the breast,—the grandest pain that man endures, which no other can assuage.... If I should make the least concession, my friend would spurn me. I am obeying his law as well as my own... At the instant that I seem to be saying farewell to my friend, I find myself unexpectedly near to him; and it is our very nearness and dearness to each other that gives depth and significance to that 'forever.' Thus I am a helpless prisoner, and these chains I have no skill to break. While I think I have broken one link, I have been forging another."

Naturally, between men so noble, this misunderstanding, which had been growing for months, soon gave way, and the old relations were resumed. It may have been in that very call made by Emerson on Thoreau, the afternoon of March 13, 1857, when he found John Brown of Kansas talking with Thoreau (to whom I had introduced him), that the ice was broken; for we do not find any more of these sad entries in the Journal. The occasion for the coldness was, I suppose, the occasional roughness of Thoreau's manner, which was usually polite, if odd, met by a certain formality and suavity in Emerson's manners that betrayed a long inheritance of etiquette from generations of clergymen.

Many will read these books for the information they furnish on a thousand points of natural history; many for their singular beauty and brevity of description, wherever the commonplace was shown to have the elements of wonder and beauty; many, but fewer, for their philosophic or poetic significance; most of all, perhaps, for their racy humor, by which New England life and the rustic or mercantile American character is so sympathetically portrayed. But they also have the interest of an autobiography, and will be read for more light upon one of the most piquant and romantic careers among American scholars and reformers. For the full understanding of this part of the copious work, many more notes and explanations are needed than the editors had room to afford even had they the needful knowledge. The five and forty years since Thoreau's death have removed most of his coevals in literature and life; and, while they have brought the Concord school of authors (among whom may be included, for certain traits, Jones Very, Walt Whitman, and John Burroughs) more into the foreground of our literature, they have deprived the present generation of the best means of judging them, whether as authors or men. Hence superficial and ridiculous estimates of the men and their work. The publication of these Journals will do much to repair this defect, which shows itself most frequently in manuals of American literature.

Much might be said of the good fortune of the publishers in securing for the sympathetic and pictorial illustration of the twenty volumes in this edition of Thoreau's writings the services of H. W. Gleason in photographing the scenes and natural incidents of his surroundings in Concord, at Monadnoc, Cape Cod, and in Canada. For years before this edition was decided on Mr. Gleason had been loyally visiting and identifying, with the aid of his excellent camera, the places and conditions mentioned, and had accumulated more than two hundred fine photographs. From these a hundred were selected to be engraved for this edition.

F. B. SANBORN.

#### SOCIALISTIC PRINCIPLES AND PROBLEMS.\*

Notwithstanding the amount of attention given to modern socialistic movements, there is a lack of definite knowledge and understanding of the subject on the part of the general public. It is with a hope of remedying this condition that Mr. John Spargo has written his "Summary and Interpretation of Socialistic Principles," giving the essentials of this phase of modern life as it has evolved historically and economically. The key-note of the book is the so-called "materialistic conception of history." Mr. Spargo states that "Socialism, in the modern scientific sense, is a theory of social evolution." Having pointed out the distinction between the "Utopian Socialism" of Owen, Saint-Simon, and Fourier, and the "Scientific Socialism" of Marx and Engels as set forth in the "Communist Manifesto," he concludes his work by giving a chapter on the Outlines of the Socialist State, and adds in an appendix the National Platform of the Socialist Party in America. Mr. Spargo, though tolerant of a certain amount of supervision of private production and exchange, and at the same time less speculative as to the precise form the state of the future will take than were the authors of the "Manifesto," nevertheless is essentially a "Marxist," and regards as

axiomatic the "class-struggle theory." He shows himself conversant with current economic thought, and in quoting various theories he carefully credits them to their originators. In spite of the brevity of his work — the result of conciseness rather than of superficiality — Mr. Spargo gives a satisfactory general view of his subject, and his book is to be recommended especially as a foundation for a more detailed knowledge to be afterwards acquired.

Of quite a different character from Mr. Spargo's work, yet dealing with the same general subject, are M. Jean Jaurés's "Studies in Socialism." Most of the papers making up the volume appeared originally in a Socialist daily paper in Paris, from which they have been translated into English by Miss Mildred Minturn, who has supplied an introduction explaining the significance and prospects of Socialism in France as well as M. Jaurés's position there. Extremely eloquent and earnest in upholding the Socialist movement, M. Jaurés is neither a "Marxist" nor a "Revolutionist," but belongs rather to the school of "Reformists," or "Opportunists." A follower in many respects of Liebknecht, he denounces the scheme of revolution upheld in the "Manifesto" as both unnecessary and ineffectual, and holds that it is by "the methodical and legal organization of its own forces under the law of the democracy and universal suffrage" that the proletariat will gain supreme power. "The transformation of all social relations cannot be the result of a manœuvre." The principle upon which he most insists is the universality of the Socialist conception, urging that under present conditions "it can succeed only by the general and almost unanimous desire of the community." A decided growth of the proletariat "in numbers, in solidarity, and in self-consciousness," he believes to be inevitable. Optimistic yet sane, of strong convictions yet conservative, M. Jaurés has not laid himself open to the familiar accusation that Socialists beg the question, for he has gone to its very roots. The beauty of his diction has been well preserved by his translator.

It requires more than an ordinary amount of mental adjustment to descend from the intellectual regions whence M. Jaurés carries his readers to "A Practical Programme for Workingmen," published anonymously. The author has divided his work into three parts, only one of which, "The Book of Facts," concerns those readers who are not searching for trite aphorisms. After discussing the influence of environment upon man, and pointing out the evils

<sup>\*</sup>Socialism. A Summary and Interpretation of Socialistic Principles. By John Spargo. New York: The Macmilan Co. STUDIES IN SOCIALISM. By Jean Jaurés. Translated, with Introduction, by Mildred Minturn. Authorized English version. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

A PRACTICAL PROGRAMME FOR WORKINGMEN. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

SOCIALISM. By Robert Flint. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippin-cott Co.

of private property and competition on the one hand and the present impracticability of "orthodox" Socialism on the other, he makes an amazing suggestion, viz., that the "unwealthy" classes organize in order to secure a candidate for the next Presidential election, possibly absorbing the Democratic party! The "practical programme" itself is then discussed, and a nationalization and municipalization of industries is considered expedient in opening the road to cooperation. Of the book as a whole it may be said that a superabundance of rhetoric has somewhat usurped the place of scientific reasoning, and it can hardly be regarded as a serious

contribution to sociology. It is to this spectacular array of the unwealthy against the wealthy, more quietly referred to by Mr. Spargo as the "class-struggle theory" and subtly suggested by M. Jaurés in his faith in the power of the proletariat, that Mr. Robert Flint so strenuously objects in his book on "Socialism." The Socialist leaders, he believes, by exaggerating the evils of present conditions and beguiling their followers by futile hopes, have done more harm than good to the workingman. Written from a non-Socialistic viewpoint, his book is evidently intended as an antidote to what he believes to be noxious theories running riot; for he states that he proposes to discuss Socialism in a way that will be intelligible to workingmen. It is a keen, scholarly, comprehensive work, and presents arguments which no Socialist can afford to pass by unchallenged. It contains, however, one rather serious fault as a present-day document: more than half of it was written fifteen years ago, when the conservative Socialists were less important in their class than they now are. Mr. Flint says: "It [Socialism] is not a system merely of amendment, improvement, reform, - it distinctly pronounces every system of that sort to be inadequate, and seeks to produce an entire renovation of society." This statement is hardly applicable to all Socialists to-day, as their programme in England, for instance, bears witness. As a criticism of the ideals of Karl Marx and his followers, Mr. Flint's work is successful in showing their fallacies and in pointing out the incompatability of Socialism with Democracy. In Socialism, he concedes, there is a large amount of good, but "it does not contain any truth or any good principle which is exclusively its own." In individualism, he sees many faults, but fewer from an economic as well as ethical standpoint than in any other system yet evolved. It is to be noted that the author's attitude toward

Socialism in its relation to religion — a subject to which he attaches very great importance — shows the strong influence upon him of the Established Church of England. Mr. Flint's own arguments are carefully supplemented by those of Socialistic and of other non-Socialistic writers, making his work comprehensive and comparatively free from prejudice. It is a valuable asset, not only to sociologists, but to all readers who are interested in social problems and who are open-minded and intelligent.

EUNICE FOLLANSBEE.

#### THE GREATEST OF FRENCH DRAMATISTS.\*

To judge by the absence of books about Molière in English, the English-speaking world has been strangely indifferent to the person and life of the greatest of French dramatists, the one whose name is most often linked with that of Shakespeare. Until very recently, Mr. Andrew Lang's article in the "Encyclopædia Britannica" was the most substantial biography of Molière accessible to English readers. Accounts of the man were few and woefully inadequate. In English books and periodicals there was very little to bear witness to the eager and fruitful search for all kinds of personal knowledge about the great author, manager, and actor, which, from 1867 to 1890, brought together the materials for the two voluminous collections moliéresques and kept the monthly magazine le molièriste going for ten years. But the last few years have seen encouraging signs of a wider and livelier interest in the great Frenchman. The frequency with which Molière is drawn upon to furnish the repertory of our amateur Thespians of the French clubs in our universities may be such a sign in one direction, and the interesting production of "The Misanthrope" by Mr. Richard Mansfield last year may be one in a different quarter. Less impeachable evidences, however, are seen in the books on Molière that have appeared. Mr. Leon Vincent, after affording us a little glimpse of the satirist of the affectations and overrefinements of the précieuses in his Hôtel de Rambouillet, returned to the theme to offer us, in 1902, a full-length portrait of Molière in a slight but well-informed and readable biography. Mr. Henry M. Trollope, whose occasional papers in the periodical press had long testified to his admiration for the creator of Tartuffe and Har-

<sup>\*</sup> MOLIERE, A Biography, By H. C. Chatfield-Taylor. Illustrated. New York: Duffield & Co.

pagon, and proved how closely he followed the course of Molière study and criticism in France, gave to the public, in 1905, a life of Molière that for the first time in English put with fulness (perhaps with too great fulness) within the reach of readers the large mass of detailed fact, of gossip and legend, of more or less plausible conjecture, and of controversy over moot points, that the patient and industrious study of the poet's life in France has accumulated. Last year we had the Molière of Mr. Marzials in the Miniature Series of Great Writers; and last, and in many ways best, we have the Molière of Mr. Chatfield-Taylor.

In calling his book "a biography," Mr. Chatfield-Taylor has put the emphasis upon the man rather than upon the works, and he has kept it there pretty consistently throughout. This does not mean that he has tried to separate the man from his works, or has at all forgotten or obscured the fact that the main business of Molière's life was the creation of plays. Perhaps he has even failed to make the separation as clear as in fact it was, and has been too ready to see the man and the circumstances of his life reflected in the works, and to make the works confessions of their author's dearest hopes and bitterest disappointments. He has treated the plays as biographical documents that interpret and portray the man. Whatever dangers this may have in the case of a dramatic author, - and especially one like Molière, whose great gift and habit of observation our biographer rightly dwells upon, and whose art is so largely objective, — it has the advantage of keeping us in the region of biography rather than of literary criticism. It is the man that we keep all the time in view.

This story of Molière the man, in his manifold relations as player, manager, author, courtier, lover, husband, friend, of this career so crowded with activity, so full of worthy accomplishment, so absorbed in the pursuit and capture of the comic and so touched with profound and tragic pathos, Mr. Chatfield-Taylor has told on the whole very well, - more adequately than Mr. Vincent and Mr. Marzials, more clearly and engagingly than Mr. Trollope. There was no need of the words of Professor Crane, in the Introduction that he contributes to the book, to assure us that the author has long been a devoted student of Molière. He shows himself familiar with the large mass of special Molière literature (at least that in French; the neglect of the Germans is of less consequence here than it generally is), and his account is thoroughly well informed. The nature of his task, — which was to trace a clear and life-like portrait of the man for the larger public of readers, and not to make a complete collection of material for the special student, — forbade him to burden his pages with a considerable apparatus of documentary evidence or to enter into the minute details of the questions in dispute, as Mr. Trollope has done; yet nothing essential has been overlooked, and the student will find in the book the main evidence on all controverted matters, and the views and arguments of the opposing advocates.

The conclusions that Mr. Chatfield-Taylor has reached in these debated questions will mainly commend themselves as sound. They are generally the ones most favorable to our good opinion of Molière's character. We can only approve the biographer's wish to believe the best of his hero, and we agree that in Molière's case this wish is for the most part justified. There has been altogether too much of a tendency among his compatriots to admit a substantial basis of truth for the malicious gossip and downright slander of unfriendly tongues. It is quite improbable that the critic of society who reveals such moral earnestness in the plays should have so flagrantly outraged the sense of common decency as some of his biographers charge him with doing. We may safely agree that "his philosophy was certainly too pure, his ideals too exalted, for him to have been the vile man his enemies and unwitting friends portray." We wonder, however, whether this consideration has not been pressed too far in the discussion of the great crux of Molière biography, - the question of the parentage of Armande Béjart, Molière's wife. It is rather overstating the case to say, as the author does in summing up: "If Armande was not Marie Hervé's daughter, then Molière, his wife, and all her family, must be classed together as forgers; and he, the greatest literary genius in France, the friend of the King, be accused either of the most abject of crimes, or of an utter disregard of common decency." But just what is "common decency"? Is it defined in identical terms in America and in France — and in Bohemia? In deciding whether Armande Béjart was the daughter or sister of Madeleine, it is possible to suspect that the Anglo-Saxon is not so likely as the Frenchman to divine the truth that lies behind the tangle of concealment and falsehood which that fascinating young woman seemed from her birth destined to provoke. Demonstration is here impossible. One is left to a balancing of probabilities, and into this many subjective elements are likely to enter. We wish to believe that which is most favorable to Molière's moral elevation and delicacy of feeling. Here is where the French critics have the advantage of us; and the fact that the majority of them incline to the opinion opposite to that upheld by Mr. Chatfield-Taylor must make us think that they would not concur in his statement of the alternative. Has not M. Maurice Donnay recently, in l'Autre danger, condoned after a fashion the offense against delicacy of feeling that is here in question? And will delicacy of feeling protect Alceste against the witchery of Célimène, when all his philosophy and good common sense are powerless to do so? But however we may judge in this matter, it is comforting to have to do with a biographer who is so loth to believe evil, who renders such substantial justice to Madeleine Béjart, and who finds good things to say even of the incorrigible coquette Armande.

In one respect our author's commendable effort for clearness has had an unfortunate consequence. We question whether, in presenting the plays in groups rather than in the order of their production, he has not confused a little the outlines of his story and given a somewhat wrong idea of the relation of the various groups to one another. In spite of the accompanying dates, it is hard to avoid the impression that the various groups mean different periods in Molière's dramatic career. This impression is distinctly given when the "histrionic plays" are referred to the last years of his life, "the period when Molière, worldly wise, experienced as a manager, and less zealous as a crusader, was content to write plays to fill the coffers of his theater." But the truth is that in the years here included, 1668 to 1773, we have the same kind of plays as he had been producing ever since his talent had appeared in its maturity, with l' Ecole des maris. There was the comedy with accompaniment of music and dancing which he was bound to provide as purveyor of amusements to his royal patron; there was the play that appealed primarily to the comic sense and the source of laughter; there was the serious comedy of satire, whether of local or universal weaknesses; and there was the play that united in various proportions the characteristics of all three. One cannot see that the plays of these five years show a very marked difference from those of the previous seven. An experienced director he had been since his return to Paris; his millitant zeal, against the doctors at least, showed no abatement in his very last comedy. His va-

rious types of comedy were first and last dictated by his circumstances and his ideals, which remained constant. Molière was director of a company, and as such was bound to provide for its financial maintenance, which meant attracting the great public to his theatre. He was, like everyone else, a servant of the King's pleasures, and was bound to furnish the kind of entertainment that his master called for. But he was also primarily and always a dramatist, holding firmly to ideals of dramatic art of great intellectual and moral elevation, and pursuing their realization. He was never, last nor first, content to write plays merely to fill the coffers of his theatre. The fact that he found it possible so often to pursue the realization of these ideals to the successful end without endangering the material prosperity of his theatre has a corollary that the biographer of Molière might well point out. It testifies in no uncertain way to the quality of the great public on whose support the theatre depended. When we reflect what large demands "The Misanthrope" puts upon the intelligence of the listener, how completely absent are all the spectacular features that count for so much with us, as well as everything that savors of the horse-play of low comedy, how single and unsupported is its intellectual appeal, we must wonder how many American cities would furnish it as long a run as it had on its first appearance. Great as was Molière's genius, his achievement was made possible by the high intellectual interests of the society around him.

But one may challenge Mr. Chatfield-Taylor's presentation of his materials in these and other points, and still assert that his book is the best that we have so far in English for the general reader who wishes to know the life and work of the master of comedy. May the number of such increase.

The book is mechanically satisfying, — only we should be glad to exchange the ten original illustrations for as many reproductions of portraits of Molière, or of old drawings of his theatre and of dramatic representations of the time.

A. G. CANFIELD.

Professor Calvin Thomas has edited "An Anthology of German Literature" for Messrs. D. C. Heath & Co. The title is misleading (unless we are to take the present volume as a first instalment) for the period covered extends only down to the sixteenth century. The selections given are not originals, but modern German translations, which enables the beginner in German to learn something of the quality of the epics, and of such poets as Walthes, Wolfram, and Hartmann von Aue.

#### BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

The fifth and concluding volume of A summary of Mr. Herbert Paul's "History of ers the period from 1885 to 1895, and treats primarily of Ireland, the two Home Rule Bills, the fall of Parnell, and of Church affairs. When the first volume appeared there was an inclination to believe, from his treatment of free-trade questions, that the author had in mind a polemical history that should have an influence on the present-day agitation for a return to some sort of a protective system in England. But this idea was a mistaken one; and it is now evident that Mr. Paul, though inevitably somewhat biased by his career as a Liberal politician and by his present position as a Liberal journalist, has merely sought to present a readable chronological history of the last fifty years in England. In this it may be said that he has succeeded, if one be not too critical of what a "history" demands. Mr. Paul's work is, in brief, a readable journalistic enterprise, sufficiently accurate in details, but lacking in study, in erudition, and in thought, and largely deficient in all save avowed political information. His sources are simply a few important biographies like that of Gladstone by Mr. Morley, and the de-bates in Parliament. In the present volume there is a note of haste as of one pushing eagerly forward toward the end of a task that has grown irksome; but even here there is attraction for the reader, arising from the author's gift in terse and striking, if not convincing, characterization. Estimated as history in its best form, Mr. Paul's work has no great value; but regarded as a rapid summary of political events and questions, written in a readable style and conveniently arranged for reference, it certainly merits commendation. And in one particular the author has added to American understanding of English contemporary history, for in this volume, as in the preceding ones, he emphasizes and makes clear the great political significance of the Church of England, the questions that concern it, and its continued importance as a political storm centre.

Lord Rosebery's Among the many interpretations of the theoretical appeared since the publication of the notable biography of him by his son, Mr. Winston Churchill, that now presented by Lord Rosebery (Harper) is especially valuable for its candid tone and its critical judgment. Lord Rosebery was a political opponent and yet a close personal friend of Lord Churchill, and shortly after the latter's death he was asked by Churchill's mother to write some estimate of her son's career. Until now he has refused to do this; but with the appearance of the former biography Lord Rosebery feels more free to give voice to his own impressions. His book is in reality an essay, to be read easily in an hour or so. The historical background is very briefly sketched,—so briefly, in fact,

that to one who has not read the more formal biography much will be unintelligible; so that the main interest lies in a comparison of the characteristics and abilities here stated with those emphasized by the former biographer. Lord Rosebery brings out, what is not clearly indicated in the earlier work, the loveableness of Lord Churchill when among his friends; the nimbleness of mind and quickness of wit that made him an enjoyable companion; and also the dogmatic self-assertion and self-confidence in political matters that ultimately wrecked his career. is entire agreement between the two authors, that Churchill was one of the cleverest political tacticians and one of the best political fighters that England has produced in the last half-century. But of his real statesmanship Lord Rosebery is not so sure, - by inference at least leaving the impression that Churchill's statesmanship had not yet developed, and that by unfortunately forcing a quarrel with his chief he lost forever the chance to make manifest his higher qualities. In effect, the present author affirms that statesmanlike qualities of a high order probably existed in Lord Churchill, but had not time to ripen; and here, as elsewhere in the essay, the seemingly adverse judgment is expressed with affection, almost with regret. Students of modern English history, especially those who have read Mr. Winston Churchill's biography of his father, will certainly find pleasure and profit in a perusal of this discriminating essay.

When, in 1843, a Theatre Regulatheatre monopoly tion Bill was passed by Parliament, in England. the final step was taken toward putting an end to an intolerable condition in theatrical affairs that had existed ever since Charles II. in 1660 granted to D'Avenant and Killigrew patents conveying exclusive rights to theatrical representations. Dr. Watson Nicholson in his "Struggle for a Free Stage in London" (Houghton) gives an excellent detailed account of the conflict between the patentees, the successors of D'Avenant and Killigrew, and their opponents, a conflict waged with varying success for nearly two hundred years. Up to 1720 the sovereigns felt free to interfere as they chose with the old patents, and to grant new ones. The prerogative of the Crown was unchecked, and the Lord Chamberlain had matters wholly in his own hands. Exclusive privileges in theatrical affairs ceased to be, and the power of the sovereign sank into abeyance from lack of exercise. As a consequence, unlicensed theatres sprang up, and, until they proceeded to attack the government and offend public morals, were let alone. Their scurrilous performances, however, led to the Licensing Act of 1737, which recognized only the patent houses and destroyed all competition. During the next half century the monopoly was absolute, more so than at any previous period of its history. By the close of the eighteenth century, however, certain minor theatres arose under Parliamentary authority to give musical performances and the like, but not to present the legitimate national drama. By 1832

these theatres had become so important, the patent theatres having meanwhile sunk to the level of the minors, that it was only a question of proper legislation to wipe away all distinctions. This came in the Theatre Regulation Bill above referred to. The history is by no means an uninteresting one, and is not without its parallels to-day.

Professor William H. Schofield's English "English Literature from the Norliterature to Chaucer. man Conquest to Chaucer" (Macmillan) purports to fill a gap in a series projected several years ago, which covered the later periods of our literary history with three volumes, the work of Messrs. Gosse and Saintsbury. The series as planned was to make four volumes, and the history of pre-Elizabethan times was to be done by Mr. Stopford Brooke. But when Mr. Brooke set to work he adopted a much more comprehensive scale than his predecessors, and when his volume appeared it was found to come down only to the Norman Conquest. The gap thus left has remained for a long time, and Mr. Schofield has now undertaken to close it up. Since the volume he now publishes (although a large one) fills only a part of the vacant space, leaving the age of Chaucer still unaccounted for, it is evident that he has gone into even greater detail than his predecessor, and that the entire six-volume history, when completed by the addition of the Chaucer volume, will constitute an extremely ill-balanced work. This is to say nothing in dispraise of any single section of it, and of the section now published we can speak only words of commendation. It offers an exceptionally thorough treatment of its period, done in the light of a scholarly tradition that runs from Gaston Paris to Child, and from Child to Professors Kittredge and Norton. Essential features of Mr. Schofield's method are the inclusion of all works written in mediæval England in whatever language, the grouping of works of allied character, and the large use made of the comparative method. The volume has a bibliographical appendix of great value.

Mr. Fitzgerald Molloy's "Sir Joshua A feast of scraps. and his Circle" (Dodd, Mead & Co.) is in no sense a serious writing upon the first President of the Royal Academy of Arts. It is rather a collection of anecdote and gossip about him, his friends, sitters, and acquaintances; and is thus an entertaining centre-table book, as it could not help being when it serves up so many interesting things about the leading characters that made the golden age of England's drama, literature, and art. Thus are paraded before us Gainsborough, Hogarth, Allan Ramsay the son of the Gentle Shepherd, West the Pennsylvania Quaker for whose career Galt's faulty pages have been laid under tribute and his errors and mistakes blindly followed, Northcote, Fuseli, and Romney, among the painters; Garrick and Siddons, the Emperor and Empress of the stage; Sam Johnson and Goldsmith, Richardson with his "Pamela" and "Clarissa," Fielding with his "Tom Jones" and "Joseph Andrews," Sterne with his "Tristram Shandy," and Smollett with his "Roderick Random," in the realm of letters; while Lady Sarah Lennox and Lady Bolingbroke and their divorces, Mary Moser and "Angel" Kauffmann (the two women members of the Royal Academy), Fanny Burney (better known as Madame D'Arblay), and Emma Lady Hamilton and her "mutable connections," give spice to the worldly side of life as here portrayed. It is true that we learn nothing about these people that we have not known before, and it may be true also that there is nothing new to be learned about them. Mr. Molloy has re-told the old stories fairly well, and produced the sort of book that very many people like to read. The lack of an index is a serious disadvantage.

The most majestic of all the ancient The most oriental poetry is that left us by the Hebrews; and the choicest of it is all poetry. that found in the Psalms. These lyric productions have held their place undisputedly at the head of all religious poetry. Their universal character and their popularity among all religious bodies of Biblical believers have led scores of scholars to produce commentaries and other treatises for their better understanding. The latest and most complete treatment is "The International Critical Commentary on the Psalms" (Scribners), by Professor Charles A. Briggs of Union Theological Seminary. This work is encyclopedic in character. It goes thoroughly into a discussion of the text, the higher criticism, the canonicity, and the interpretation of the Psalms. The Introduction, covering 110 pages, is the fullest treatment we have seen on all the questions that concern a critical study of the Psalter. Particularly noticeable is Professor Briggs's theory of Hebrew poetry. For a score of years he has advocated a regular metrical form that has continually gained favor with Hebrew scholars all over the world. This theory is applied with great care in this commentary. Professor Briggs follows up the minutiæ of every word and point in such a manner as to convince the reader that his work is exhaustive. Another thing that strikes the mind of the reader forcibly is the absolute certainty with which he assigns the composition of the Psalms to different periods of history. In the commentary proper the author's strength is shown, in the main, in his treatment of the theological questions that arise in the individual Psalms. On this point, rather than on the date or linguistic phases, this commentary is of especial value to scholars, for of course it is a book preëminently for them.

The authors and literature of Hungary.

Dr. Frederick Riedl of Budapest has written "A History of Hungarian Literature" for the series of books called "Literatures of the World," published by the Messrs. Appleton, and now numbering upwards of a dozen volumes. The writing of the book was commissioned by the Hungarian Academy for the

express purpose of filling a gap in the series, and representing the national literature of the Magyar by a thoroughly authoritative treatise. "The book is unique in its kind in that it has been written entirely for the English public, and has never appeared in Hungarian; indeed, no such work exists in Hungary, and it will be as new to the Hungarian public as it is to the English." The translation of the prose text is the work of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Ginever (the latter a daughter of the Hungarian poet Gjöry), and the interspersed poetical illustrations are mainly the work of Mr. G. Hagberg Wright, upon whose initiative the book was undertaken. Upon examination, it proves to be an extremely readable volume, exhibiting scholarship without pedantry, and resisting the temptation to dwell at too great length upon the formative period of the literature. After eighty pages, or thereabouts, we get down to the nineteenth century, which gives ample space for an adequate account of the really significant modern poets, dramatists, and novelists. We extract one amusing bit about the poet Csokonai. After his death (1805), the inscription "I too have been in Arcadia" was suggested for his tombstone. "The poet's fellow-townsmen, the worthy matterof-fact burgesses of Debreczen, did not know what it meant. They looked up the name Arcadia in Barthélemy's 'Le Jeune Anacharsis,' and there discovered the following statement: 'In Arcadia there were excellent fields for the rearing of domestic animals, especially asses.' They felt hurt, and the ensuing controversy would have furnished a suitable theme for Csokonai's muse."

Now that Ibsen is dead, and has con-sequently "arrived," it is curious to note the rush of the critics, profes-Belated of Ibsen. sional and amateur, to the discussion of his work. The former kind of critic, after ignoring the dramatist during all the years of his struggle and his slowly-ripening triumph, now seems to be saying: "This man was really of considerable importance, and it is my professional duty to the public to appraise him." The recent essays of Professor Dowden and Mr. Arthur Symons are cases in point. They have "gotten up" their subject too hurriedly to have anything particularly weighty to say about it, but their manner is impressive, and we may credit them with the discharge of an obligation imposed by the sense of their own importance as mediators between poet and public. To the amateur critic, Ibsen offers, not so much the chance of performing a public duty as the chance of attracting attention by exploiting a subject of special timeliness. He affords a fine corpse in which to flesh their bright new surgical instruments. Mr. Haldane MacFall, who has just published a book on Ibsen (San Francisco: Morgan Shepard), is a typical example of this sort of critic. His method is very simple. He takes the plays and the letters of the dramatist, and has at hand a few standard books (Jaeger, Brandes, Gosse, Archer, Boyesen); with these materials he concocts a running narrative, composed of the plots of the plays and the incidents of the biography. His individual contribution is a jerky emotional commentary, which makes a brave pretense of being impressive, but exhibits no particular insight or sense of perspective. The one really original thing Mr. MacFall does is to give Ibsen's great contemporary (whom he mentions repeatedly) the weird name of "Byornsterne Byornsen." This amazing exhibition of bad taste (for we cannot charitably ascribe it to ignorance) needs no comment.

Five readable sketches of five bril-Some brilliant and eccentric liant and eccentric ladies, cleverly translated from the French of M. Arvède Barine, are published in a handsome volume entitled "Princesses and Court Ladies" (Putnam). The title is inclusive enough to make room for Marie Mancini, Christina of Sweden, the Duchess of Maine, the Margravine of Bayreuth, and an Arab princess who left her father's harem and gave up her title to become plain Frau Reute, wife of a German merchant, - and always regretted it. M. Barine is already known to English readers through two volumes about another princess, la Grande Mademoiselle. He writes in a popular style that does not obtrude its background of scholarship, but nevertheless depends upon it to avoid any suspicion of cheapness or superficiality. He presents mooted issues, but does not discuss them, aiming to cast verified facts into picturesque and dramatic form rather than to propound new theories. He has the Gallic eye for type, with evidently a keen interest in the particular one that he chooses to delineate. All his fine ladies have much in common: a brilliant but unbalanced mind, a violent temper, superb egotism, an irresponsible child-like zest for pleasure, and a freakish love of romance, which, coupled with their other qualities, often leads to wild extravagances and strange adventures.

An optimistic view of American pub-Workers for public good lie morality is taken by Mr. Philip in America. Loring Allen in his book entitled "America's Awakening" (Revell). "That there has been an awakening of the American people during the opening years of the twentieth century is now an accepted fact," says Mr. Allen; and he might have added that it was certainly time for one. This awakening, he thinks, "has manifested itself in two main forms, the warfare against political bosses and the warfare against specially privileged corporations. And yet the story of the great movement for political and business honesty cannot be told in the mere list of rascals jailed and new officials elected. Above and beyond these concrete achievements, there has been a bracing of the moral sense of the country that is none the less real because it cannot be accurately measured." The book is an attempt to measure the extent and reality of this moral bracing, through personal studies of the lives and political careers of the men who most aided it,

— Roosevelt, LaFollette, Folk, Jerome, Weaver, Johnson, not forgetting the almost numberless lesser men whose names are not on the public records, but who have been actively serving in the "humdrum work for good."

#### BRIEFER MENTION.

Ibsen's "Peer Gynt" is now added to the uniform edition of his plays published by the Messrs. Scribner. The translation is Mr. Archer's, considerably revised, and is provided with an extensive historical and critical introduction. Another feature of much interest is an appendix which gives us translations of the Peer Gynt legends as they appear in Asbjörnsen's "Eventyr."

From the Elm Tree Press, Woodstock, Vermont, we have a beautifully-printed copy of FitzGerald's (here unfortunately printed Fitzgerald) version of the "Agamemnon" of Æschylus. The edition is limited, and has two portrait illustrations, besides a sketch-map of the path of the travelling fire. There are a few notes. Good taste characterizes every feature of the make-up of this dignified volume, for which we are given to understand that Messrs. C. L. Dana and J. C. Dana are responsible.

Dr. Alfred M. Tozzer, who for three years filled the research fellowship of the Archeological Institute of America, has made a report of his work, which is now published by the Macmillan Co. His subject is "A Comparative Study of the Mayas and the Lacandones." A publication of allied interest is Mr. Warren K. Moorehead's "Narrative of Explorations in New Mexico, Arizona, Indiana, etc.," published at Andover by the Phillips Academy Department of Archæology.

"The Mythology of Greece and Rome," by Professor Arthur Fairbanks, is published by the Messrs. Appleton in their series of "Twentieth Century Text-Books." The special purpose of the work is "to illustrate the wide-reaching influence of Greek myths first on the Latin poets, and, mainly through the Latin poets, on later writers." This gives it a general character similar to that of Gayley's "Classic Myths," but the illustrative material used in the two works is widely different.

Professor Charles Eliot Norton's Centenary Memoir of Longfellow appears in a cheaper edition (price fifteen cents) which will be welcome to many at this time of a revival of interest in the poet. The limited large-paper edition, with its two photogravure portraits, its uncut leaves, and its English cloth covers, will appeal to those to whom a work of literature is not always more than its raiment. But readers of every class must value the book, in whatever shape, both for its subject and its authorship.

Hood and Goldsmith are the latest to take their place in the goodly company of "Oxford Poets," published by Mr. Henry Frowde. In his preface to the Hood volume, Mr. Walter Jerrold states that he has been able to include several hitherto uncollected pieces. The arrangement of the poems is in the main chronological, — a decided improvement over the usual arbitrary division into "serious" and "humorous" sections. The Goldsmith volume is a revision and extension of Mr. Austin Dobson's Clarendon Press edition of 1887. The whole of Goldsmith's poetry is now included, and considerable new editorial material is introduced. A portrait in photogravure appears in each volume.

#### NOTES.

Mr. A. C. Benson's charming book "The Thread of Gold," is now published by Messrs. E. P. Dutton & Co. in a new and highly attractive edition.

Balzac's "Pierrette," edited by Miss Theodora de Sélineourt, is an addition to the "Oxford Higher French Series," published by Mr. Henry Frowde.

An edition of Irving's "Sketch Book," embodying several unique and serviceable features, has been prepared by H. A. Davidson, and will be issued at once by Messrs. D. C. Heath & Co.

"Lincolnies" is the title of a new "Ariel Booklet" published by Messrs. G. P. Putnam's Sons. It is a compilation of the familiar sayings of Abraham Lincoln, edited by Mr. Henry L. Williams.

A volume on Ibsen by Mr. Edmund Gosse and one on Goethe by Professor Dowden will soon be issued in Messrs. Scribner's series of "Literary Lives."

"The Praise of Hypocrisy," being an essay in Casuistry by Dr. G. T. Knight, is issued as a booklet by the Open Court Publishing Co., having originally appeared in the pages of "The Open Court."

Mr. Mitchell Kennerley publishes a new edition of the "Memoirs of Arthur Hamilton, B. A.," now acknowledged as the work of Mr. A. C. Benson, but first published anonymously more than twenty years ago.

The Macmillan Co. continue to issue the English "Who's Who," which in the volume for 1907 contains about two thousand closely-printed pages. This is the fifty-ninth annual issue of this extremely useful book of reference.

"The Bridge Blue Book," by Mr. Paul F. Mottelay, is the latest candidate for the favor of bridge enthusiasts. It is a compilation of expert opinion upon disputed matters, and is published by Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons.

"Municipal Control of Public Utilities," by Dr. Oscar Lewis Pond, is published in the Columbia University series of studies. The author's special task has been the examination of recent judicial decisions upon this very live subject.

Mr. Walter Taylor Field's articles on children's reading, several of which have appeared in The Dial, will be published next month by Messrs. A. C. McClurg & Co., in a volume entitled "Fingerposts to Children's Reading."

"Soils: How to Handle and Improve Them," by Professor S. W. Fletcher, is the latest addition to "The Farm Library" of Messrs. Doubleday, Page & Co. It makes a large volume, abundantly and handsomely illustrated.

Two new volumes in the "Oxford Higher French Series" are a "Choix de Lettres Parissennes de Madame de Girardin," edited by Mr. F. de Baudiss, and Hugo's "Hernani," edited by Mr. C. Kemshead. Mr. Henry Frowde is the publisher.

Professor George Lansing Raymond's "The Essentials of Æsthetics" (Putnam) offers in a single volume, and in condensed form, a statement of the author's theories about the fine arts, as heretofore embodied by him in a series of substantial special volumes.

Mr. T. S. Osmond has written a volume, which Mr. Henry Frowde will publish next month, sketching the history of prosodical criticism in England and America during the last two hundred years. It is entitled "English Metrists of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth

Centuries." The author has endeavored not merely to enumerate and summarize treatises, but also to trace the gradual development of sounder views about verse structure.

Mr. Lawrence Gilman has written a small guide to the "Salome" of Herr Richard Strauss. The story is recapitulated, with illustrations from Wilde's text, and the leading motives are printed in musical notation. The booklet is published by the John Lane Co.

Professor Gilbert Murray's singularly poetic translations of the "Medea," "The Trojan Women," and the "Electra" of Evripides, three volumes in one, supplied with introductions and notes, come to us from the American branch of the Oxford University Press.

"A Text-Book of Practical Physics," by Dr. William Watson, is published by Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co. It is a reference book for advanced student workers in physical laboratories, and a comprehensive guide to the methods of modern physical technology.

"The Book of the V. C." as compiled from official papers by Mr. A. L. Haydon, is a "popular record of the deeds of heroism for which the Victoria Cross has been bestowed, from its institution in 1857 to the present time." It is a good book for boys. Messrs. E. P. Dutton & Co. are the publishers.

Mr. Paul Elmer More, who writes too much to write as well as he might, now sends out a fourth volume of "Shelburne Essays" from the press of the Messrs. Putnam. The essays number eleven, and among their subjects are Hawker (of Morwenstow), Herbert, Keats, Franklin, Whitman, and Blake.

Book Three of "The Gulick Hygiene Series" is called "Town and City," and is made up of chapters for children on such subjects as street-cleaning, sanitation, parks, water-supply, and epidemics. It makes a very useful kind of supplementary reading-book. It is written by Mrs. Frances Gulick Jewett, and published by Messrs. Gina & Co.

A new book by Mr. Arthur C. Benson, entitled "Beside Still Waters," is announced for March publication by the Messrs. Putnam. The volume takes the form of a record of the sentiments, the changing opinions, and the quiet course of life of a young man whom an unexpected legacy has freed from the necessity of leading an active life in the world of affairs.

The Spring fiction of Messrs. A. C. McClurg & Co. includes the following volumes: "Langford of the Three Bars," by Kate and Virgil D. Boyles, illustrated in color by Mr. N. C. Wyeth; "The Iron Way," by Mrs. Sara Pratt Carr; "Indian Love Letters," by Mrs. Marah Ellis Ryan; and "The Story of Bawn," by Miss Katharine Tynan.

A "Large Print Edition" of standard literature is announced by Messrs. Doubleday, Page & Co. The series will be printed from bold-faced type on thin Bible paper, in a form convenient to hold and to carry about. Miss Brontë's "Wuthering Heights" and Charles Reade's "Love Me Little, Love Me Long" are the first volumes announced.

Those well-known books of a past generation, "Ten Acres Enough" and "Liberty and a Living," are to have an up-to-date successor in Mr. Bolton Hall's "Three Acres and Liberty," which the Macmillan Company will publish shortly. In the preparation of his facts and figures as to modern cultivation of the soil, Mr. Hall has had the aid of several well-known specialists in this field.

"American History and Government," published by Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co., is a text book of United States history by Professors James A. Woodburn and Thomas F. Moran. It is a book for the grammar grades, but might be profitably used a little higher up, although it falls short of the requirements for senior class work in the high schools.

A "New Classical Library," edited by Dr. Emil Reich, is published by the Macmillan Co. The volumes are small, and two of them are now at hand. One is "An Alphabetical Encyclopædia of Institutions, Persons, Events, etc., of Ancient History and Geography," and has been prepared by Dr. Reich himself. The other offers a translation, by Mr. G. Woodrouffe Harris, of the first three books of Herodotus.

Two new volumes will soon be published by Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Co. in "The Chief Poets Series." Their titles will be "The Chief English Poets to the Time of Chaucer," edited by Professor C. G. Child, of the University of Pennsylvania; and "The Chief English Poets from Chaucer to Tottel's Miscellany," edited by Professor W. A. Neilson and Dr. Kenneth G. T. Webster, of Harvard University.

Beginning with the January number the famous English quarterly, "Mind," is to be published by Macmillan & Co., Ltd., London, and The Macmillan Company, New York. Professor G. F. Stout, who has been the editor for more than fifteen years, retains that position, and Professor E. B. Titchener, of Cornell University, remains the American editorial representative. The Advisory Committee includes Dr. Edward Caird, Professor Ward, and Professor Pringle-Pattison.

The alumnse of Bryn Mawr College have undertaken to create within the next two years an endowment fund of one million dollars, to be devoted to the strictly academic needs of that institution. In furtherance of this fund the Bryn Mawr alumnse of Chicago have adopted the novel and somewhat daring plan of presenting at the Auditorium during the week of February 18 the San Carlo Opera Company in a varied repertoire. This organization, which includes such capable artists as Madame Nordica, Sig. Campanari, and Miss Alice Neilson, has met with marked success in its tours of the past two years, under the direction of Mr. Henry Russell. The week in Chicago promises to be a brilliant one, and should result in the substantial advancement of a worthy educational cause. Nearly \$100,000 has already been raised for the proposed endowment in Boston and other cities.

Two books of special interest in view of the approaching tri-centennial of Jamestown, Va., will be published this Spring by the Macmillan Company. One is the "Travels" of the famous Captain John Smith,—
"The Generall Historic of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles, with the Proceedings of those Severall Colonies and the Accidents that Befel them in all their Journyes and Discoveries. By Captaine John Smith, Sometymes Governour in those Countryes, and Admirall of New England." The rare works that make up this volume are here assembled in convenient form for the first time since their original publication in 1624-30. The edition will contain facsimile reproductions of all the maps and illustrations in the originals, including the rare portraits of the Duchess of Richmond and Pocahontas. The other book is "The Birth of the Nation: Jamestown, 1607," by Mrs. Roger A. Pryor, author of "The Mother of Washington and Her Times," and "Reminiscences of Peace and War."

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

[The following list, containing 88 titles, includes books received by THE DIAL since its last issue.]

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